

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-08 AID-05 DHA-02 OMB-01 /095 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2182

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IV, ML

SUBJECT: MALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CISSOKO VISITS IVORY COAST

SUMMARY: MALIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION CHARLES SAMBA CISSOKO PAID THREE-DAY VISIT TO IVORY COAST FEBRUARY 17-19 AT INVITATION OF GOIC FONMIN USHER. EMPHASIS WAS ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS WITH ACCORD SIGNED CREATING JOINT IVORY COAST-MALI COMMITTEE OF COOPERATION, FIRST MEETING OF WHICH TO BE HELD IN BAMAKO IN DECEMBER. END SUMMARY.

1. CISSOKO WAS ACCOMPANIED ON HIS VISIT TO IVORY COAST BY HIS WIFE AND SMALL DELEGATION OF EXPERTS. IN ABSENCE FROM COUNTRY OF PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET BOIGNY, CISSOKO WAS RECEIVED BY ACTING PRESIDENT AUGUSTE DENISE AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT PHILIPPE YACE AS WELL AS BY FOREIGN MINISTER USHER AND SEVERAL OTHER MINISTERS. CISSOKO PARTY ALSO VISITED AGRICULTURAL AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN YAMOUSSOUKRO AND BOUAKE INCLUDING COFFEE AND COCOA PLANTATIONS, TOBACCO FACTORY, TEXTILE FACTORY, AND EDUCATION TELEVISION COMPLEX.

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2. MAIN PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. HIGHLIGHT OF THE TRIP WAS THE SIGNING OF A ACCORD CREATING A JOINT COMMISSION OF COOPERATION WHICH WILL MEET PERIODICALLY TO DISCUSS "MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST PARTICULARLY ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL, AND CULTURAL ISSUES AS WELL AS TRANSPORT AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS." THE GROUNDWORK FOR

THE ACCORD HAS BEEN LAID AT AN EXPERTS-LEVEL MEETING OF THE TWO COUNTRIES HELD IN ABIDJAN LAST NOVEMBER. THE FIRST MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMISSION WILL BE HELD IN BAMAKO IN DECEMBER.

3. ALTHOUGH THE VISIT FOCUSED ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION, POLITICAL ISSUES WERE TREATED BRIEFLY IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE VISIT IN WHICH THE TWO COUNTRIES EXPRESSED THEIR DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE LACK OF PROGRESS TOWARD A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER AND CALLED FOR RENEWED NEGOTIATIONS. ON THE MIDDLE EAST, THE TWO COUNTRIES CALLED FOR A JUST AND LASTING PEACE BASED ON "PERTINENT" UN RESOLUTIONS. ON SOUTHERN AFRICA, THE COMMUNIQUE REAFFIRMED THE SUPPORT OF THE TWO COUNTRIES FOR LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, CONDEMNED APARTHEID AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, AND REAFFIRMED THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA TO SELF-DETERMINATION AS WELL AS THE RIGHTS OF THE BLACKS OF SOUTH AFRICA TO DIGNITY AND LIBERTY. THE COMMUNIQUE CITED THE EXCELLENT AND FRIENDLY BILATERAL RELATIONS WHICH EXIST BETWEEN IVORY COAST AND MALI AND STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF BUILDING AFRICAN UNITY THROUGH REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS OMVS, COUNCIL OF THE ENTENTE, OCAM, CEAO AND CEDEAO (ECOWAS).

4. AS THE CONCLUSION OF THE VISIT FONMIN USHER ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE CISSOKO'S INVITATION TO PAY A RECIPROCAL VISIT TO MALI.

5. COMMENT. ALTHOUGH WORKING RELATIONS BETWEEN IVORY COAST AND ITS LANDLOCKED NORTHERN NEIGHBOR HAVE NECESSARILY BEEN FAIRLY CLOSE, GIVEN THE LARGE NUMBER OF MALIANS IN IVORY COAST AND THE HEAVY TRAFFIC OF GOODS TRANSITING THIS COUNTRY DESTINED FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MALI, THE GOIC HAS FELT FOR SOME TIME THE NEED TO PUT RELATIONS ON A MORE JURIDICAL BASIS BY CREATION OF A JOINT COMMISSION (SUCH AS EXISTS WITH LIBERIA AND GHANA) TO WORK OUT AGREEMENTS IN SPECIFIC AREAS SUCH AS MOVEMENT OF PERSONS AND GOODS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. POLITICALLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE FRIENDLY BUT NOT OVERLY WARM. A DIFFERENCE IN STYLE WAS NOTABLE BETWEEN THE PRESS CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES WHICH CISSOKO GAVE ON ARRIVAL, IN WHICH HE TOOK MILITANT POSITIONS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA AND IN SUPPORT OF THE ARABS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND THE WORDING OF THE FINAL JOINT COMMUNIQUE WHICH CONTAINED MUCH SOFTER LANGUAGE CALLING FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND THE NEED FOR A JUST AND LASTING PEACE.

STEARNS

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Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, COMMUNIQUEs, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES, COMMITTEES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 24-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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DecapTION Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: ABIDJAN
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Litigation History: Hold (001 Tobacco) added on 4/16/2009 3:39:10 PM by WASHDCMcGoldRJ, Hold (001 Tobacco) removed on 4/16/2009 3:45:08 PM by WASHDCMcGoldRJ (Litigation Hold Lifted)
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5d79c1bf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, IV, ML, (CISSOKO, CHARLES SAMBA)
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